COMMITTEE ON FACULTY RESEARCH LECTURER

March 1, 2021

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
   Riverside Division

From: David Reznick
       Chair, Committee on Faculty Research Lecturer

Re: Campus Safety Task Force Report

The Committee on Faculty Research Lecturer reviewed the Campus Safety Task Force Report. The Committee finds that the overall suggestions for redesigning the police department into an integrated public safety department that coordinates its activities with other campus services, such as addressing homelessness, mental and other basic needs, with special attention devoted to the positive treatment of and needs of marginalized groups in our society, is consistent with suggested plans for reform in municipal police forces.

One feature of the report that is missing is a clear statement of the extent to which these activities are reform versus redesign. It would help to have had a summary paragraph and a projection of the extent to which these recommendations were targeting those problems versus ones that make sense and have merit in their own right. Furthermore, there were some concerns about the consideration of disbanding the campus police. They are an integral part to campus safety in an increasingly uncertain environment. Without our own force, we would need to rely on the city police which also means we would be forfeiting the opportunity to influence who is hired, how they are trained or how they conduct their jobs. Campus police should be incorporated in many campus committees and trained for more cooperation with students, staff and faculty. By increasing communication, can we help ameliorate the concerns of those who support disbanding.

Overall, the committee finds the report well prepared and approves of the report.